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## NRC ISSUES SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT ON OCONEE LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has issued its safety evaluation report on the proposed renewal of the operating licenses for the three Oconee nuclear power plants near Seneca, South Carolina. In the report, the staff concludes there are no safety concerns that would preclude renewal of the license.

Duke Energy Corporation submitted an application to the NRC in July 1998 to renew the licenses for Oconee Units 1, 2 and 3 for another 20 years after the current licenses expire on February 6, 2013, for Unit 1; October 6, 2013, for Unit 2: and July 19, 2014, for Unit 3.

A copy of the safety evaluation report is available in the NRC Public Document Room at 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555; telephone: 202/634-3273. A copy will also be available at: <u>http://www.nrc.gov/OPA/reports/renewal.htm</u> on the NRC's Website.

As previously announced, a subcommittee of the agency's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards will meet February 24 in Clemson, South Carolina, to review the safety evaluation report, and the full committee will later issue a report discussing the results of its review. Other steps in the NRC's review of Duke Energy's license renewal application will include an inspection by the agency's Region II office in Atlanta and final review by the Commission.

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